

and authorized actions by Attorney General in appropriate district courts to collect assessed penalties, for provisions authorizing penalties of up to \$1,000 per offense for willful violations of this chapter, recoverable in civil action brought by the United States.

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in section 2713 of this title.

§ 2715. Certification of organizations; required contents of report as criteria

The eligibility of any organization to represent commercial egg producers of any egg producing area of the United States to request the issuance of an order under section 2704 of this title, and to participate in the making of nominations under section 2707(b) of this title shall be certified by the Secretary. Certification shall be based, in addition to other available information, upon a factual report submitted by the organization which shall contain information deemed relevant and specified by the Secretary for the making of such determination, including, but not limited to, the following:

(a) Geographic territory covered by the organization's active membership.

(b) Nature and size of the organization's active membership, proportion of total of such active membership accounted for by producers of commercial eggs, a chart showing the egg production by State in which the organization has members, and the volume of commercial eggs produced by the organization's active membership in each such State,

(c) The extent to which the commercial egg producer membership of such organization is represented in setting the organization's policies,

(d) Evidence of stability and permanency of the organization,

(e) Sources from which the organization's operating funds are derived,

(f) Functions of the organization, and

(g) The organization's ability and willingness to further the aims and objectives of this chapter: *Provided, however,* That the primary consideration in determining the eligibility of an organization shall be whether its commercial egg producer membership consists of a substantial number of egg producers who produce a substantial volume of commercial eggs. The Secretary shall certify any organization which he finds to be eligible under this section and his determination as to eligibility shall be final. Where more than one organization is certified in any geographic area, such organizations may caucus to determine the area's nominations under section 2707(b) of this title.

(Pub. L. 93-428, § 16, Oct. 1, 1974, 88 Stat. 1178.)

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in sections 2704, 2707 of this title.

§ 2716. Regulations

The Secretary is authorized to make regulations with force and effect of law, as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this chapter and the powers vested in him by this chapter.

(Pub. L. 93-428, § 17, Oct. 1, 1974, 88 Stat. 1178.)

§ 2717. Investigations by Secretary; oaths and affirmations; subpoenas; judicial enforcement; contempt proceedings; service of process

The Secretary may make such investigations as he deems necessary for the effective carrying out of his responsibilities under this chapter or to determine whether an egg producer, processor, or other seller of commercial eggs or any other person has engaged or is about to engage in any acts or practices which constitute or will constitute a violation of any provisions of this chapter, or of any order, or rule or regulation issued under this chapter. For the purpose of such investigation, the Secretary is empowered to administer oaths and affirmations, subpoena witnesses, compel their attendance, take evidence, and require the production of any books, papers, and documents which are relevant to the inquiry. Such attendance of witnesses and the production of any such records may be required from any place in the United States. In case of contumacy by, or refusal to obey a subpoena to, any person, including an egg producer, the Secretary may invoke the aid of any court of the United States within the jurisdiction of which such investigation or proceeding is carried on, or where such person resides or carries on business, in requiring the attendance and testimony of witnesses and the production of books, papers, and documents; and such court may issue an order requiring such person to appear before the Secretary, there to produce records, if so ordered, or to give testimony touching the matter under investigation. Any failure to obey such order of the court may be punished by such court as a contempt thereof. All process in any such case may be served in the judicial district whereof such person is an inhabitant or wherever he may be found.

(Pub. L. 93-428, § 18, Oct. 1, 1974, 88 Stat. 1178.)

§ 2718. Authorization of appropriations

There is hereby authorized to be appropriated out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated such funds as are necessary to carry out the provisions of this chapter. The funds so appropriated shall not be available for payment of the expenses or expenditures of the Egg Board in administering any provisions of any order issued pursuant to the terms of this chapter.

(Pub. L. 93-428, § 20, Oct. 1, 1974, 88 Stat. 1179.)

CHAPTER 61—NOXIOUS WEEDS

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§ 2801. Congressional findings

The importation or distribution in interstate commerce of noxious weeds, except under controlled conditions, allows the growth and spread of such weeds which interfere with the growth of useful plants, clog waterways and interfere with navigation, cause disease, or have other adverse effects upon man or his environment and therefore is detrimental to the agriculture and commerce of the United States and to the public health. The uncontrolled distribution within the United States of noxious weeds after their importation or interstate distribution has like detrimental effects and allowing such distribution encourages and facilitates the burdening and obstructing of interstate and foreign commerce, and is inimical to the public interest. Accordingly, the Congress hereby determines that the regulation of transactions in, and movement of, noxious weeds as provided in this chapter is necessary to prevent and eliminate burdens upon and obstructions to interstate and foreign commerce and to protect the public welfare.

(Pub. L. 93-629, § 2, Jan. 3, 1975, 88 Stat. 2148.)

SHORT TITLE

Section 1 of Pub. L. 93-629 provided: "That this Act [enacting this chapter] may be cited as the 'Federal Noxious Weed Act of 1974'."

§ 2802. Definitions

As used in this chapter, except where the context otherwise requires:

(a) "Secretary" means the Secretary of Agriculture of the United States or any other person to whom authority may be delegated to act in his stead.

(b) "Authorized inspector" means any employee of the Department of Agriculture, or any

employee of any other agency of the Federal Government or of any State or other governmental agency which is cooperating with the Department in administration of any provisions of this chapter, who is authorized by the Secretary to perform assigned duties under this chapter.

(c) "Noxious weed" means any living stage (including but not limited to, seeds and reproductive parts) of any parasitic or other plant of a kind, or subdivision of a kind, which is of foreign origin, is new to or not widely prevalent in the United States, and can directly or indirectly injure crops, other useful plants, livestock, or poultry or other interests of agriculture, including irrigation, or navigation or the fish and wildlife resources of the United States or the public health, and includes kudzu (*Pueraria lobata* Dc).

(d) "United States" means any of the States, territories, or districts of the United States.

(e) "Interstate" means from any State, territory, or district of the United States into or through any other State, territory, or district.

(f) "District" means the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or any possession of the United States.

(g) "Move" means deposit for transmission in the mails, ship, offer for shipment, offer for entry, import, receive for transportation, carry, or otherwise transport or move, or allow to be moved, by mail or otherwise.

(Pub. L. 93-629, § 3, Jan. 3, 1975, 88 Stat. 2148; Pub. L. 105-86, title VII, § 728, Nov. 18, 1997, 111 Stat. 2108.)

AMENDMENTS

1997—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 105-86 inserted "and includes kudzu (*Pueraria lobata* Dc)" before period at end.

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in section 2809 of this title.

§ 2803. Movement of noxious weeds into or through the United States or interstate

(a) Regulations

No person shall import or enter any noxious weed identified in a regulation promulgated by the Secretary into or through the United States or move any noxious weed interstate, unless the movement is in accordance with such conditions as the Secretary may prescribe by regulation under this chapter to prevent the dissemination into the United States, or interstate, of such noxious weeds.

(b) Permits

The regulations prescribed by the Secretary to implement subsection (a) of this section may include regulations requiring that any noxious weed imported or entered into the United States or moving interstate be accompanied by a permit issued by the Secretary prior to the movement of the noxious weed.

(c) Unlawful sale, purchase, and transportation, and advertisements for unlawful sale, purchase, and transportation

No person shall knowingly sell, purchase, barter, exchange, give, or receive any such noxious